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Know Your Enemy

PRESIDENT KENNEDY has ordered a review of our intelligence services including the controversial CIA.

And not a moment too soon. We've always had a rotten reputation for this kind of work (remember Pearl Harbor?), but it wasn't until the shocking debacle of the anti-Castro Cuban invasion and the subsequent stories of the parts our people played in fouling this one up that we knew how really bad we were.

Washington columnists are taking great delight in tearing into the CIA now that they have the chance. There also are indications that perhaps more mature intelligence services of other government departments were ignored in favor of the CIA, and that there's plenty of bad blood that needs letting up there.

If we're not getting correct intelligence, and it doesn't look like we are, certainly we can't be expected to act with any sort of success in Europe or Asia or Latin America.

A few more leaps into the dark and we'll be in bad shape. It is time we knew more whys and wherefores before we moved.